

**July 2015**

## The Extinguisher

"Putting out the news"

Ashley McDonald, Editor in Chief



### Birthdays

Davey Ferrell 7/1

John Flynt 7/1

Jason Hayes 7/1

Rob Vaughter 7/2

Ted Pertiller 7/7

Paul Diawara 7/8

Ben Honeycutt 7/12

Brian Lowe 7/13

David Simms 7/14

Jamie Layhew 7/16

Bobby Brewer 7/18

Chad Davis 7/24

Lance Sutton 7/24

Ryan Daniel 7/25

Titus Jackson 7/26

Mike Keith 7/28

David Wade 7/28

Laurie Alsop 7/29

### City Holiday

MFRD's Administrative Office  
will be closed on  
**Friday, July 3, 2015**  
in observance of  
Independence Day.

*If you need immediate  
assistance, contact MFRD  
Headquarters  
At 615-849-2661.*

## MFRD AND MPD STEP UP SAFETY MEASURES FOR FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND

As the citizens of Murfreesboro prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July holiday, Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department and Murfreesboro Police Department are taking measures to make sure it's safe and enjoyable.

MPD will have residential patrols as well as increased traffic enforcement over the holiday weekend. Officers will strictly enforce speeding, seat belt, DUI, and other traffic related laws as well as the City fireworks regulations.



Both MPD and MFRD will be present at the city-sponsored "Celebration Under the Stars" event on July 4 at McKnight Park.

MPD will provide traffic and event control. MFRD will have the Special Events Team tent set up for the day's festivities and will be able to provide medical assistance if necessary. MFRD's award-winning Honor Guard will present colors at the opening ceremony and crews will be posted at the site where the fireworks will be launched. Fire engines as well as a brush truck will be on standby during the fireworks show.

In Murfreesboro's city limits, fireworks may only be used between June 28 and July 5 between the hours of 10:00 am and 10:00 pm only; except that on the Fourth of July, fireworks may be used until 11:00 pm.

The Fire Marshal's Office would like to remind citizens that it is unlawful for any person to use any item of fireworks on private property without the consent of the property owner or for any person to use any item of fireworks on public property including public streets.



"It is also unlawful for anyone in the City of Murfreesboro to sell, use, or possess any mortar firework with a single tube, if that tube has been preloaded with a shell and the tube or shell has a diameter of one and a half inches," said Assistant Fire Marshal Michael Bartlett. "Anyone in the city limits is also prohibited from selling, using, or possessing reloadable fireworks and bottle rockets."

Bartlett and CityTV filmed a public service announcement to demonstrate fireworks safety techniques and to educate the public on the fireworks laws in the City of Murfreesboro.

For more information on Fireworks Safety or on the City's Celebration Under the Stars, visit the City's website at [www.murfreesborotn.gov](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov).



# Come Celebrate the 4th!



**10 am - 4:30 pm**

**5 pm - 8 pm**

**7:50 pm - 8 pm**

**8 pm - 9 pm**

**9 pm - 9:15 pm**

**"Rock the Pool" at the Sports\*Com**

**Family games and activities - free!**

**Welcome and introductions**

**Color guard to present colors-**

**National Anthem Murfreesboro Symphony**

**Fireworks show - free!**

**Sponsored by:**

**City of Murfreesboro, Murfreesboro Parks & Recreation Dept., Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra,  
Murfreesboro Police Dept., Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Dept., and Rover.**



**DEDICATED TO ENHANCING YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE!**  
**MURFREESBORO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
**[WWW.MURFREESBOROTN.GOV/PARKS](http://WWW.MURFREESBOROTN.GOV/PARKS)**



The City does not exclude anyone from participation, nor deny the benefits of, or otherwise subject to discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, age, sex or disability. Any complaint alleging discrimination may be filed with the Mayor of the City of Murfreesboro. \*Any city resident needing financial assistance to participate in any activity may contact the main office of the Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department located at 887 Bedford Crescent Road to receive a copy of its financial assistance policy. It is the goal of Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department to make its programs and facilities available to the public. If you, or someone you know, has a disabling condition and would like more information about accessibility of programs or facilities, please call the main office of the Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department at 930-0333 or TDD 848-2689.

## TWO MFRD CAPTAINS AND ONE DRIVER TO RETIRE IN JULY

Two Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department Captains and one Driver will retire next month. Captain Ricky Jones will retire July 3 with 37 years of service, Driver Eddie Mitchell will retire July 3 after 31 years of service, and Captain/Shift Inspector Randy Rae will retire after 30 years of service on July 11.

One common thought among all three retirees is that their greatest pleasure from working at MFRD came from the opportunities they received to help the citizens in the community. "We respond to citizens on what is a lot of times their worst day," said Mitchell, "and we try to make it better."

The three have also enjoyed forming lifetime friendships with their brothers and sisters at MFRD and in the fire service in general.

Each was asked his most memorable call. For Jones, it was a house fire on Bell Street. "There were four people trapped inside," he said. "One of my firefighters at the time was Bobby Canterbury. I did not realize it until later, but the people trapped inside were his family members. I will never forget that."

Mitchell could not settle on just one memorable call. He said in the Summer of 1985 when he was the only Firefighter at Station 3 (Mercury Boulevard) they responded to six fires in just one 24-hour shift. "There were two house fires, a huge tree fire at Middle Tennessee State University, a car fire, a brush fire, and a commercial fire," Mitchell said. He also recalled May 2003 when straight line winds caused a lot of destruction across

the city. "We left the station that evening and did not return till after shift change," he said. "We went from one call to the next, and when we returned to the station, there was about a foot of standing water from the flood."

Rae's most memorable call was the fiery crash on Interstate 24 where a young couple headed to Bonnaroo perished due to fire. "It was one of the worst calls I can remember in my career at MFRD," Rae remarked.

These gentleman have all seen many changes over the years, but the biggest changes were the number of technical rescue services provided to the community, the level of medical service (no medical to first responder to basic life support), and the technology. According to Jones, when he started with the department, all they had for protection from fire was a coat and helmet. "We progressed over the years to full personal protective equipment with airpicks," he said. Jones also mentioned today's use of computers and thermal imaging cameras in the fire service. "These items have greatly increased our abilities to serve the citizens over the years."

When asked what each plans to do in retirement, they mutually agreed that spending more time with family and not missing so many special occasions is number one on the list. Jones and Mitchell plan to golf more frequently and Rae intends to travel. Jones will continue serving the community in the nursing field and Mitchell will continue helping the fire service as the President of the Tennessee Professional Fire Fighters Association and as an active member of the Local 3035 Murfreesboro Fire Fighters Association.

Chief Cumbev Gaines, who will also retire in August 2015, commented on his fellow retirees: "There are a lot of us older Firefighters who are hanging up our helmets. It is bittersweet for sure. Although we will no doubt enjoy spending more time with our families at home, we will miss our fire service family members."

Jones and Mitchell celebrated with friends and coworkers in a small ceremony on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Rae will celebrate July 8<sup>th</sup>.





## VINSON RECEIVES LEWIS BAKER AWARD FROM TFA

Retired MFRD Training Coordinator Billy Vinson received the Lewis Baker Award at the 82nd Annual Tennessee Firemen's Association (TFA) Conference in May. Vinson retired in July 2014 after serving 40 years with MFRD.

He is pictured with wife, Diane, and Peggy Baker (wife of the late Lewis Baker).

Vinson and Baker were friends for many years.

In a newsletter article Vinson wrote for "The Extinguisher" in 2008, he discussed Mr. Baker's influence in the fire service:

"Mr. Lewis Baker, former Fire Instructor for the State of Tennessee, recently shared his knowledge of simplifying tasks with Training Coordinator Billy Vinson. Mr. Baker devised a remote pressure gauge that makes testing fire apparatus pumps easier and safer. Mr. Baker is also credited for developing the "Baker Load," a hose load for pre-connected fire attack lines that makes deploying the lines faster and easier. These are only two innovative concepts of Mr. Baker's. During his teaching career, he developed countless methods of simplifying firefighter tasks.

Even though Mr. Baker is retired, he is still a great help. There are many of his methods we use in the department today."

*Baker taught firefighters statewide classes in fire pumper, aerial trucks, maintenance and instructor schools at the Tennessee State Fire Academy in Murfreesboro from the early 1970s until the school closed in 2001. He passed away in February 2010.*



## PUMP TESTING AT KITTRELL VFD

(DEBOWSKY & BROWN)





## THANKFUL FAMILY BRINGS LUNCH TO EMERGENCY RESPONDERS

It's not every day that emergency responders get a chance to meet face to face with the people they save during their career...for Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's District 2 and Rutherford County Emergency Medical Services' Medic 1 that happened Friday afternoon around a firehouse kitchen table.

On December 27, 2014, MFRD and RCEMS responded to the home of Ross and Alice Clinton. Ross was experiencing a serious medical issue and Alice called 9-1-1 for assistance. Due to the quick and efficient response of the departments, Ross received the medical care that he needed and has made nearly a full recovery from what was an extremely life-threatening condition.



One day in April while eating lunch, MFRD Assistant Chief of Medical Services Kim Lawson was approached by Ross. He shared his story with her and his interest in doing something nice to thank the responders that played a major role in saving his life.

Ross and Alice and two of their children, Catherine and Phillip, brought a full spread of food for all the emergency responders and their coworkers to MFRD's Station 2. After introductions between the family and responders, Ross told his story and described his recovery process.

He said he does not remember much about the incident. However, he knows from what his family members told him that he received great care. Most importantly to him, his wife and children were comforted during those very scary moments.

Alice said that the responders were a true gift and made her feel at ease from the beginning. "It was something to see the departments operate proficiently and professionally as a metropolitan department would, but with the empathy, care, and compassion of a small town department," she said. "The fact that they pulled it off with ease leads me to believe that this is how the departments operate on a daily basis. We wanted to make sure that it did not go unnoticed or unappreciated," she continued.

"We are very grateful for the positive outcome for Mr. Clinton that resulted from the teamwork of MFRD and RCEMS," said Assistant Chief Lawson. "Our responders, though they save lives every day, do not always get to hear the outcome. We thank the Clintons for sharing their story and for generously showing their appreciation."





## EMERGENCY RESPONDERS CONTINUED...



**(L to R): Clay Malone, Bobby Canterbury, Brent Brandon, Matt Wiley, Alice Clinton, Ross Clinton, Catherine Clinton, Phillip Clinton, Ryan Daniel, and Adam Brown.**



## MFRD HONOR GUARD POSES WITH MISS TENNESSEE UNITED STATES

MFRD Honor Guard Members posed with Miss Tennessee United States Sarah Gross at the Disabled American Veterans Annual Convention at the Doubletree Hotel in Murfreesboro in June.

**Pictured (L to R): Firefighter Kevin Leonard, Firefighter Alan Jakes, Miss Tennessee Sarah Gross, Firefighter Joshua Parsons, and Firefighter Matthew Twomey.**

*Photo courtesy of Doris Long of Long Photography.*



## MFRD NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE 13TH CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department is now accepting applications for the 13<sup>th</sup> session of the Citizens Fire Academy (CFA).

The six week course will begin Tuesday, September 15, and will continue through Tuesday, October 27, skipping October 6 due to the scheduled fall break of area schools. Class times are 6:00-9:00 pm.

The CFA offers a small group of area residents the opportunity to view and participate in the activities and services provided by the MFRD. Academy participants will receive an insider's view of MFRD operations. Students will have the opportunity to participate in activities such as: wearing turnout gear, climbing a 65' aerial, using extrication equipment, victim search and rescue using GPS, and much more (all activities are optional). The academy will conclude with a graduation ceremony, where class members will receive a certificate of completion.

Gena Burns-Harrison attended the class last year with her daughter, Lauren. "My daughter and I had an incredibly unique mother-daughter bonding time. CFA was an experience that, I submit, neither of us will forget. While we have always been explorers, investigators, and researchers, this experience broadened our horizons and opened our eyes. It made us contemplate things we had never previously considered."

**It is important to mention that the Citizens Fire Academy is in no way job related. Completing the academy has no bearing on employment with the City or MFRD.**

The cost of the class is \$35.00. Class size is limited and the deadline for application submission is September 1. Applications can be obtained at Fire Administration located at 220 NW Broad Street or any MFRD fire station. They can also be obtained online at: [www.murfreesborotn.gov/fireacademy](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov/fireacademy). For more information, contact MFRD Administration at 615-893-1422.



[WWW.MURFREESBOROTN.GOV/FIREACADEMY](http://WWW.MURFREESBOROTN.GOV/FIREACADEMY)

## MFRD FILMS 10TH EPISODE OF COOKING SHOW

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department recently filmed the 10th Episode of "Cooking with MFRD."

If you follow social media, you have probably seen the recipe for "BBQ Bacon Sushi." Throw out all those misconceptions! Firefighter Bo Jones has perfected his own version of the recipe and shares it with the show's viewers.

Meat lovers will go crazy for this dish!

The show airs on CityTV beginning July 1. It is also available on YouTube or [www.murfreesborotn.gov/cookingwithmfrd](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov/cookingwithmfrd).



You can also access past episodes and recipes on YouTube and [www.murfreesborotn.gov/cookingwithmfrd](http://www.murfreesborotn.gov/cookingwithmfrd).



Don't forget to schedule your Health Evaluation.

Register online at [myinteractivehealth.com](http://myinteractivehealth.com).



## LAST "SPLASHOUT" OF THE SUMMER

Join Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department and Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation for the last "Splashout" of the Summer. MFRD's Ladder 9 will be at Old Fort Park from 1:30-3:00 pm on Thursday, July 16 spraying kids and adults.



If you notice MFRD personnel providing exemplary service, displaying professionalism, or representing the City of Murfreesboro in a positive light, please share your experience by nominating them for a Service Excellence Stars Award.

Click here for more information or to [Nominate a STAR](#).

## CRANFORD NAMED FF OF THE MONTH JULY 2015

Driver David Cranford has been named FF of the Month for July 2015. He and Firefighter Paul Diawara were nominated by their Captain for an act of kindness.

According to Captain/Shift Inspector Jeff Day, the crew responded to a medical call in June. An elderly resident became overheated while unloading the contents of a U-Haul. Driver Cranford and Firefighter Diawara took it upon themselves to finish unloading the trailer for the family.

Though Cranford and Diawara were both nominated, Diawara received the honor in May for another act of kindness.

Cranford has been with MFRD since December 2000.

